542 world's championship in Helsinki (1937) and in
[524] Lucerne (1939). Chess also is widely played.
[541] Estonian Games, like the Singing Festivals, were arranged at five-year intervals in all types of sports. Performances of folk dances were especially impressive, with hundred of pairs of dancers participating.

Estonian athletes continue to excel also under the Soviet rule, but they appear on U. S. S. R. teams and their nationality is not mentioned.

181 Basic attitudes. Estonians are not always an easy-going people. They have to a certain degree the "heavy spirit," a kind of basic suspiciousness and distrust and a tendency toward pessimism. Their hard past and the injustices suffered at the hand of their conquerors are perhaps good reasons for these attitudes.

642 Sports. The earliest sport to bring the Estonians world fame was wrestling. Estonia had her world champions as early as the last century. In the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm the heavyweight wrestling contest was won by an Estonian. At other Olympic Games the Estonians participating in various athletics won six gold medals, seven silver and ten bronze medals. Of these, several were won by wrestlers.

The Estonians like gymnastics and have had in the past many amateur groups of adults, both men and women, under professional trainers. The most popular games were socker, basketball, volleyball, lawn tennis, ice hockey, skating and skiing. Estonians have won many European ice-sailing contests. In rifle shooting have have also excelled. They won the famous Argentine Statue twice in succession at the